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PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS.

UNITED STATES.

Recent legislation by the State of California relative to notification of contagious and infectious diseases, quarantine regulations, and disinfection of infected localities.

The following are received from Passed Assistant Surgeon Blue, under date of March 12:

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 300.

[Passed the assembly January 27, 1905; passed the senate February 21, 1905.]

An Act to amend Article I of Chapter II, Title VII of Part III, of the Political Code of the State of California, by adding a new section thereto, to be numbered section 2984, for the enforcement of the rules, orders, and regulations of the State board of health within municipalities and incorporated towns, and prescribing the duties of boards of health and health officers of such municipalities and towns in relation to the State board of health.

The people of the State of California, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Article I of Chapter II, Title VII, Part III, of the Political Code of the State of California is hereby amended by adding a new section thereto, to be numbered section 2984, to read as follows:

2984. It shall be the duty of the board of health of each municipality and incorporated town within this State, and of every chief executive health officer thereof, where there is no municipal or town board of health, to enforce within such municipality and incorporated towns all orders, rules, and regulations concerning health and quarantine prescribed or directed by the State board of health; and it shall be the duty of such board of health, or chief executive health officer, to report in writing to the State board of health on or before the 5th day of each month all infectious, contagious, and communicable diseases in man or beast which shall come to their or his knowledge, upon blanks furnished by the State board of health. Said board of health, or chief executive health officer where there is no board of health, in cases of local epidemic of disease, shall report to the State board of health all facts concerning the disease and the measures taken to prevent or abate its spread, infection, or contagion. Said board of health, or chief executive health officer where there is no board of health, shall report to the State board of health all violations of the State health laws and of the laws relating to the registration of marriages, births, and deaths, which shall come to their or his knowledge.

SEC. 2. All acts and parts of acts in conflict or inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed.

SEC. 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 302.

[Passed the assembly, January 27, 1905.—Passed the senate, February 24, 1905.]

An act to amend the Penal Code of the State of California, by adding a new section thereto, to be numbered section 377a, making it a misdemeanor to violate or refuse or neglect to conform to the rules, orders, and regulations of the State board of health respecting the quarantine, disinfection, or isolation of persons, animals, things, or places, or the prevention or abatement of contagious or infectious diseases.

The people of the State of California, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. A new section to be numbered section 377a is hereby added to the Penal Code of the State of California to read as follows:

377a. Every person who after notice shall violate or who, upon the demand of any public health officer, shall refuse or neglect to conform to any rule, order, or regulation prescribed by the State board of health respecting the quarantine or disinfection of persons, animals, things, or places shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

SEC. 2. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent or in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

SEC. 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

Extract from Penal Code relative to violation of quarantine.

[Section 376, Penal Code. Enacted February 14, 1872; amended 1878 and 1905.]

376. VIOLATION OF QUARANTINE LAWS BY MASTERS OF VESSELS.—Every master of a vessel subject to quarantine or visitation by the quarantine officer arriving in the port of San Francisco who refuses or omits—

1. To proceed with and anchor his vessel at the place assigned for quarantine at the time of his arrival; or,

2. To submit his vessel, cargo, and passengers to the examination of the quarantine officer, and to furnish all necessary information to enable that officer to determine to what length of quarantine and other regulations they ought, respectively, to be subject; or,

3. To remain with his vessel at the quarantine during the period assigned for her quarantine, and while at quarantine to comply with the regulations prescribed by law, and with such as any of the officers of health, by virtue of authority given them by law, shall prescribe in relation to his vessel, his cargo, himself, his passengers, or crew, is punishable by imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding one year, or by fine not exceeding two thousand dollars, or both.

Extract from assembly bill No. 339, relative to duties of State board of health in regard to vital statistics and to quarantine and disinfection.

It [the State board of health] shall maintain a bureau of vital statistics under the supervision of its executive officer, where shall be collected and recorded all births, marriages, and deaths, burials and cremations within the State. These statistics, together with the num-